

PAYING TRIBUTE TO VERONICA
VASQUEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Veronica Vasquez and thank her for her years of service she has given to the Colorado school system. At the end of this year she will retire after devoting thirty years of her life to educating students in Alamosa Colorado. As she celebrates her retirement, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize her distinguished career before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Veronica decided on a career in teaching after thinking about pursuing a career as a reporter or a social worker. She began as a substitute teacher in the Alamosa School District before taking her first full time teaching position as a bilingual kindergarten through fourth grade teacher. She was employed at several of the elementary schools in Alamosa until she was offered a five-year position as a parent community liaison, where she worked with at risk families and students coordinating crisis prevention and intervention teams. After her five-year position she went back to teaching for three years before becoming Principal of Polston Primary School.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Veronica Vasquez before this body of Congress and this nation. Veronica's willingness to provide her time and experience to Alamosa's children is something truly special and worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this nation today. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE LAKE
OSWEGO DYNAMO BLUE BOYS
TEAM AS THEY ADVANCE TO NA-
TIONALS

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2004

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Lake Oswego Soccer Club's Dynamo Blue boys' team who will be competing in the U-12 bracket of the U.S. Club Soccer Nationals tournament held in Cary, North Carolina July 22 through July 25, 2004.

These Lake Oswego Soccer Club members will represent the region of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Northern California: Ryogo Asai, Cale Begelow, Brandon Blackmore, Jacob Campbell, Jack Cowan, Kyle DeVos, Ben Dugoni, Alex Haagenson, Ben Handy, Thomas Iwasaki, Erik McAdams, Nick Nelson, Bennett Savage, Luke Thompson, and Tyler Webster and are coached by Michael Harn.

As a former physical education teacher and coach, I know the positive benefits of giving students the opportunity to participate in team sports. Whether working together as a team, exercising good sportsmanship skills or developing pride in playing one's best, team sports teach our children valued lessons they will carry throughout life.

We also know that childhood activity improves child health which, in turn, is beneficial

to adult health. When children have the opportunity to live an active life through programs such as soccer, children have a much higher propensity to live as active adults which reduces their health risks.

I would also like to commend U.S. Club Soccer, a non-profit organization, committed exclusively to the support and development of competitive soccer clubs. With close to 8 million youth soccer players in our country and growing, it is safe to say that U.S. soccer players pose a significant challenge on the world's playing field.

Again, good luck to the Dynamo Blue boys' team from Lake Oswego. I know that you will play your best and carry the pride of representing our community, our state and the region at Nationals.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL
MICHAEL V. PALATAS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life and passing of Colonel Michael Palatas of Pueblo, Colorado. Michael was one of Colorado's most decorated veterans and as his family mourns his passing, I think it is appropriate to remember his life of dedicated service before this body of Congress and this nation.

Michael bravely answered his nation's call to service in 1941, when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. As a Second Lieutenant, he fought battles in the Pacific theater during World War II. During the Korean War he served as a platoon leader in five major battles. A few years later, Michael served as a commanding officer for the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines and later an executive officer for the 9th Marine Regiment in the Vietnam War. In recognition of his valiant actions on the battlefield, Michael received several awards from the military, including: a Silver Star, a Legion of Merit, a Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, six Presidential Unit Citations, a Combat Action Ribbon, a Good Conduct Medal, two Navy Unit Commendations and a Meritorious Unit Commendation. After thirty-four years of dedicated service, he and his family settled on his ranch in Lake George, Colorado. Later, they moved to Colorado Springs and eventually to Rye, Colorado. Outside his military life, he actively participated in his church.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Palatas was a pillar of his community and he will be sorely missed. His pride for his nation was demonstrated in the many years he spent in active duty for our nation's military. At this difficult time of bereavement, I express my deepest regrets and sympathies to the family and friends of Michael Palatas.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 12, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4755) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this rule.

Unlike most appropriations bills that this House debates, this bill will be considered by a structured rule that had blocked me from offering two amendments.

Two amendments that, according to the parliamentarian, were germane and not subject to a point of order. In other words, if this appropriations bill was any other appropriations bill, I would of had the opportunity to offer my amendments.

My first amendment would have prohibited the use of funds on any vote that last longer than 17 minutes.

It is not bad enough that they will hold the vote open long enough to have it their way. What is worst is that they would not even let us debate the amendment in the first place. What are they so afraid of?

The second Amendment would have required conference committees to meet before the House can vote on a conference report.

Since they did not allow me to offer my amendment, I plan to introduce a bill to restore democracy to the House of Representative. Some of the key sections of the bill deal with what my amendments would have also addressed.

In all, this legislation will offer ten specific changes to the way this House has been operating under the Republican Majority. Like my amendments, these changes will help restore democracy to the United States Congress.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LOU
ROLLENHAGEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Lou Rollenhagen, and thank him for his dedication toward educating our youth in the Palisade, Colorado community. As the principal of Palisade High School, he has guided thousands of students toward their future aspirations. It is with great satisfaction and pride that I pay tribute to Lou for his many contributions to his community and state.

Lou attended Michigan State University and then went on to Western State College, where he became certified as a teacher. He took his first job at Palisade High School teaching Life Science before going on to become the counselor, the assistant principal, and the head football, wrestling, and basketball coach.

He has served as the Principal for over fifteen years and has succeeded in making many improvements for the school including